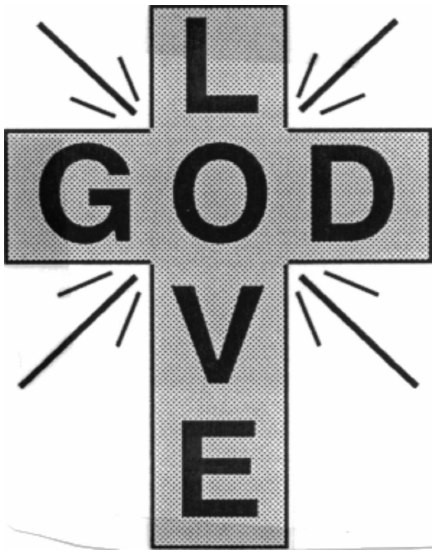

THE TALE OF NATAN AND ABIR

A Children's Story for All Ages
(A fictional tale inspired by Scripture)

By Jim Giatas

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Introduction for Parents and Teachers

There is a special kind of story that speaks to both children and adults at the same time — a story simple enough for young ears, yet deep enough to stir something quiet and holy in the heart of a parent. This little book is one of those stories.

At first glance, it is the tale of two humble donkeys, a father and a son, each marked with a white cross upon their backs. But beneath the gentle storytelling lies a reminder that reaches far beyond the stable and the hillside paths of Judea.

It is a reminder that God sees the lowly.
That He remembers the humble.
That He chooses the ordinary to carry His extraordinary love into the world.

As you read this story with your child, you may find that it speaks to you as well — to your hopes, your worries, your memories, and the quiet prayers you carry for your family. Parenting is a sacred journey, filled with moments of joy and moments of uncertainty. Yet the God who guided Mary and Joseph, the God who watched over Natan and Abir, is the same God who walks beside you today.

May this story open gentle conversations.
May it plant seeds of kindness and faith.
May it remind your child — and you — that God delights in using the humble, and that His love is never far from the smallest places.

As you turn the page and begin the journey, may your home be filled with peace, wonder, and the quiet assurance that the Lord is near.

Author's Note for Parents and Teachers

Dear Parent and Teacher,

Stories have a way of reaching places in the heart that ordinary words cannot. This little tale of Natan and Abir was written with children in mind, but it carries a quiet message for you as well — a reminder that God often works through the humble, the unnoticed, and the ordinary.

As you read this story with your child, you may find echoes of your own journey. Parenting is filled with moments of joy and moments of uncertainty, times when you feel strong and times when you feel small. Yet the God who guided Mary and Joseph, the God who watched over the donkeys marked with a cross, is the same God who walks beside you today.

You do not need to be perfect to be a good parent.
You do not need to have every answer.
You simply need to walk with love, with gentleness, and with a heart open to God's quiet leading.

May this story open conversations, spark wonder, and plant seeds of faith in your home. And may it remind you — as it reminded me while writing it — that God delights in using the humble, and that His grace is more than enough for every step of your journey.

With warmth and blessing,
The Author

Introduction for Children

Hello, little one.

This is a story about two very special donkeys — a father and a son — who lived long ago in the land where Jesus walked. They were not big or strong or famous. They did not wear crowns or armor. They did not live in palaces or run fast like horses.

But they carried something wonderful.

Each donkey had a **white cross** on his back, like a secret reminder that God sees even the smallest creatures. And each donkey was chosen to help in a very important way — a way that changed the world forever.

As you read this story, you will meet Natan, the father, and Abir, his son. You will walk with them on dusty roads, hear the songs of children, and see how God uses gentle hearts to carry His greatest blessings.

So find a cozy place, open your heart, and come along.
A beautiful journey is waiting for you.

1. The Father's Journey

Long ago, in the quiet hills of Judea, there lived a humble donkey named **Natan**. His coat was dark and soft, and across his back lay a **white cross** — a mark that made him look as though he carried a blessing wherever he went.

Joseph the carpenter often stroked that cross and smiled.

“God hath marked thee, old friend,” he would say.

One day, Joseph placed a young woman upon Natan’s back — a woman whose face shone with peace. Her name was **Mary**, and though she was heavy with child, her smile was full of hope.

Natan carried her carefully on the long road to Bethlehem.
He felt the warmth of her hands, the softness of her voice, and the holiness of the Child she carried.

Though donkeys do not speak, they remember.

And Natan remembered everything.

2. A Son is Born

Years passed, and Natan grew old. Before he died, he told his young son **Abir** the story of that holy journey. Abir listened closely, his own coat still soft and new — and on his back, just like his father, lay a **white cross**.

“My son,” Natan whispered, “this cross is a reminder. God chooses the humble. He chose me to carry the mother of the King. Perhaps one day He will choose you for something only He can see.”

Abir treasured those words.

And he remembered.

3. A Quiet Life Near Jerusalem

Abir grew into a strong, gentle donkey. His gray coat shone in the sun, and the **white cross** on his back stood out like a stroke of light. Children in the village often touched it softly.

“Look,” they would say, “he carries a cross like a sign from God.”

Abir did not understand the meaning, but he felt its comfort.

He lived quietly near the Mount of Olives, helping his owner carry wood, water, and grain. He worked faithfully, just as his father had taught him.

But deep inside, Abir carried a secret — the story of the Child his father had once carried.

Sometimes, when the wind blew softly through the olive trees, Abir would close his eyes and imagine the holy Child growing into a man.

4. “The Lord Hath Need of Him”

One bright morning, as the sun rose golden over the Mount of Olives, Abir stood quietly beside a stone wall, flicking his tail and listening to the birds. His owner was sweeping the yard when two men approached, walking with purpose yet with kindness in their eyes.

They greeted the owner and spoke the words Abir would never forget:

“Go into the village over against you; and straightway ye shall find an ass tied, and a colt with her: loose them, and bring them unto me.”
— Matthew 21:2 (KJV)

The owner blinked in surprise.
“Why do ye loose the colt?” he asked.

The men answered just as their Master had told them:

“The Lord hath need of him.”
— Luke 19:31 (KJV)

At those words, Abir felt something stir deep inside him — something ancient, something remembered, something his father Natan had spoken of long ago.

His owner nodded slowly, as though touched by a quiet understanding.

“Then take him,” he said. “If the Lord needs him, he is yours.”

The disciples gently untied Abir’s rope.
He did not resist.
He felt as though he were walking into a story that had begun before he was born — a story his father had carried on his own back.

5. The King

The disciples led Abir to a small gathering of men. And there, standing among them, was a Man whose presence felt like peace itself.

When Jesus laid His hand upon Abir’s neck, His fingers rested gently on the **white cross**. Abir felt warmth spread through him — the same warmth his father had described.

Jesus smiled, as though He recognized the mark.

“Behold, thy King cometh unto thee… sitting upon an ass, and a colt the foal of an ass.”
— Matthew 21:5 (KJV)

They placed garments upon Abir's back, and Jesus sat upon him.
But Abir felt no burden.
Instead, he felt lifted — as though the whole world had become lighter.

6. Hosanna

As Abir carried Jesus into Jerusalem, the **white cross** on his back gleamed in the sunlight. Some in the crowd noticed it and whispered.

"Look — even the beast He rides bears a sign."

Children waved palm branches.
Men and women laid their cloaks on the road.
The air was filled with singing.

"Hosanna to the Son of David!"
— Matthew 21:9 (KJV)

Abir walked slowly, reverently, carrying the King just as his father had carried the King's mother.

And in that moment, Abir understood.

His father had carried the mother of the King.
He was carrying the King Himself.

7. The Donkey Who Remembered

When the procession ended, Jesus gently slid from Abir's back and placed His hand upon the donkey's head.

Abir felt peace, warmth, and love — the same love his father had spoken of.

Jesus whispered something only Abir could hear.

And Abir remembered it all his life.

For God had chosen the humble once again.

8. The Story Passed Down

Years later, when Abir grew old, he told his own young colt the story — the story of the King who rode upon him, and the King whose mother his father had carried.

And he told him about the **white cross** they both bore.

“It is a reminder,” Abir said softly, “that God sees the humble. And sometimes He chooses them for His greatest works.”

And though donkeys do not speak,
they remember.

And the story lived on.

Closing Reflection

Some stories stay with us long after the last page is turned.
This is one of them.

For in the tale of Natan and Abir, we learn something precious — something simple enough for a child to understand, yet deep enough for a lifetime of faith.

God sees the humble.
God remembers the lowly.
And God often chooses the smallest, quietest, gentlest creatures to carry His greatest blessings.

A donkey carried Mary to Bethlehem.
A donkey carried Jesus into Jerusalem.
Neither was strong or mighty or important in the eyes of the world.
But both were chosen.

And so it is with us.

We may feel small.
We may feel unnoticed.
We may feel ordinary.
But God knows our names, just as He knew Natan and Abir.
He sees the marks we carry, the stories we inherit, the love we pass down.

And sometimes, when we least expect it, He whispers to our hearts:

“The Lord hath need of you.”

May we be ready, like Abir, to follow when He calls.
May we remember, like Natan, the blessings we have carried.
And may we walk gently, humbly, and faithfully —
for the King still comes,
and He still chooses the humble to carry His light into the world.

Epilogue

(For Children, Parents, and Teachers Alike)

Long after the roads of Jerusalem grew quiet,
long after the palm branches dried in the sun,
the story of the humble donkey lived on.

Children told it to their children.
Parents whispered it at bedtime.
And travelers passing through the hills of Judea
would sometimes pause when they saw a donkey
with a white cross upon its back.

For they remembered.

They remembered that God chose a simple stable
for the birth of His Son.
They remembered that He chose fishermen and shepherds
to share His good news.
And they remembered that He chose a gentle donkey
to carry the King of Kings.

The Bible tells us:

"Behold, thy King cometh unto thee… lowly, and sitting upon an ass."
— Matthew 21:5 (KJV)

And so, whenever you see a donkey with a cross on its back,
you may think of Natan and Abir —
two humble creatures who carried great blessings.

But even more,
you may remember that God still chooses the humble today.
He still sees the small.
He still loves the gentle.
And He still writes His story
through hearts that are willing to follow Him.

The tale of Natan and Abir has ended,
but the story of God's love
goes on forever.

Scripture Note for Parents

This story is a work of gentle, faith-filled imagination.
It weaves together the real events of Scripture with a fictional thread — the idea that the donkey who carried Mary to Bethlehem might have been the father of the donkey who carried Jesus into Jerusalem.

The Bible does **not** tell us this.
But it does tell us the parts that matter most:

- That Mary rode to Bethlehem before Jesus was born
  (**Luke 2:1–7**, KJV)

- That Jesus entered Jerusalem riding on a young donkey
  (**Matthew 21:1–11**, **Mark 11:1–10**, **Luke 19:28–40**, **John 12:12–15**, KJV)

- That this fulfilled the ancient prophecy:
  "Behold, thy King cometh unto thee… lowly, and sitting upon an ass."
  (**Zechariah 9:9**, KJV)

- That the disciples were sent to find the colt
  and were told to say,
  "The Lord hath need of him."
  (**Luke 19:31**, KJV)

The story of Natan and Abir simply imagines what might have been —
a way to help children see humility, gentleness, and God's tender choosing through the eyes of two small creatures who served quietly in the background of the greatest story ever told.

As you read with your child, you may find it helpful to revisit the Scriptures together.
Let this little tale open the door to conversations about Jesus, His kindness, His kingship, and the way He still chooses the humble today.

May the Word of God remain the foundation,
and may this story be a soft light that helps young hearts draw near to it.

Children's Glossary of Biblical Terms

- **Angel** — A special messenger from God who brings His words, His help, or His comfort.

- **Bethlehem** — The small town where Jesus was born, just as God promised long before.

- **Blessing** — A gift of goodness, love, or protection that comes from God.

- **Carpenter** — A person who builds things from wood. Joseph, who cared for Mary and Jesus, was a carpenter.
- **Colt** — A young donkey. Jesus rode a colt into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday.
- **Disciple** — A follower of Jesus who learns from Him and shares His love with others.
- **Hosanna** — A joyful shout that means "Save us!" or "Praise to our King!"
- **Jerusalem** — A very important city in the Bible where Jesus taught, healed, and entered riding a donkey.
- **King of Kings** — A name for Jesus that means He is the greatest King of all.
- **Mary** — The mother of Jesus, chosen by God to carry His Son.
- **Miracle** — Something wonderful that only God can do.
- **Palm Branch** — A long leaf waved by people to celebrate Jesus as their King.
- **Prophecy** — A message from God about something that will happen in the future.
- **Savior** — A name for Jesus because He came to rescue us and bring us close to God.
- **Scripture** — God's Word written in the Bible.
- **Stable** — A small shelter for animals. Jesus was born in a stable because there was no room in the inn.
- **Temple** — God's special house in Jerusalem where people came to worship Him.
- **The Lord** — A name we use for God or for Jesus, showing honor and love.
- **The Lord Hath Need of Him** — The words Jesus told His disciples when He sent them to find the donkey He would ride.
- **White Cross** — The natural marking on many donkeys' backs, reminding us of Jesus' love and humility.

A Short Prayer for Children

Dear Lord Jesus,
Thank You for loving us,
even when we feel small.
Thank You for choosing the humble,

just as You chose the little donkey
to carry You with joy.

Help us to be gentle,
help us to be kind,
and help us to remember
that You are always with us.

Teach us to listen for Your voice,
to follow You with happy hearts,
and to shine Your light
wherever we go.

Bless our families,
our friends,
and all who need Your love today.

Amen.

A Prayer for Teachers

Dear Lord,
Bless the teachers who guide little hearts each day.
Give them patience when the room is noisy,
wisdom when questions are many,
and gentleness when young spirits need comfort.

Fill their words with kindness,
their hands with grace,
and their steps with Your quiet leading.

When they feel tired, strengthen them.
When they feel unseen, remind them that You see every act of love.
When they feel small, show them that You delight in using the humble —
just as You chose a simple donkey to carry Your blessing.

Let their classrooms be places of peace,
their lessons seeds of faith,
and their presence a reflection of Your love.

Bless their families,
their work,
and the children entrusted to their care.

And may they always know
that the light they carry
shines far beyond what they can see.

Amen.

A Child's Prayer for Teachers

Dear Jesus,
Thank You for my teacher.
Thank You for the way they help me learn
and for the kindness they show each day.

Please bless them when they are tired,
help them when things are hard,
and fill their heart with Your peace.

Help me to listen well,
to be gentle and kind,
and to bring joy to my classroom.

Thank You for giving me someone
who cares about me
and helps me grow.

Please watch over my teacher today
and every day.

Amen.

A Parental Blessing for Children

May the Lord bless you, my child,
and keep your heart soft and kind.
May He guide your steps in peace,
and fill your days with His light.

May you grow gentle in spirit,
brave in goodness,
and strong in love.

May you remember that God sees you,
knows you,

and delights in you —
just as He chose the humble donkey
to carry His greatest blessings.

May your hands bring comfort,
your words bring hope,
and your life shine with the love of Jesus.

And may you always know,
in every season and every moment,
that you are cherished,
you are watched over,
and you are never alone.

Amen.

A Blessing for Parents

May the Lord bless you,
and give you wisdom for every step you take.
May He quiet your worries,
renew your strength,
and remind you that He walks beside you
in every season of your child's life.

May He fill your home with peace,
your words with gentleness,
and your hands with patience.
May He teach you to lead with kindness,
to correct with love,
and to guide with a heart that listens.

May you remember that you are not alone —
the same God who watched over Mary and Joseph
watches over you.
The same God who chose a humble donkey
to carry His blessings
will carry you as well.

May He bless your joys,
heal your sorrows,
and strengthen your hope.
And may He give you grace
to entrust your children to His care,
for they are His before they are ours.

May the love of Christ guard your family,
today and always.

Amen.

A Reflection for Parents and Teachers

There is a moment, after reading a story to a child, when the room grows still.
The book closes softly, the child leans closer, and something sacred settles in the quiet.
It is in that moment that this reflection belongs.

As parents, we often feel the weight of responsibility — the desire to guide well, to protect wisely, to love faithfully. Yet Abir's story reminds us of something simple and freeing:

God chooses the humble.

He chose a carpenter and a young woman in Bethlehem.
He chose a stable instead of a palace.
He chose a donkey instead of a war horse.
And He still chooses the small, the quiet, the ordinary — including us.

We do not need to be perfect to raise our children well.
We do not need to have all the answers.
We do not need to carry every burden alone.

The God who guided Mary and Joseph,
the God who marked Natan and Abir with a cross,
the God who sees the lowly and lifts them up —
that same God walks beside you in every step of your parenting.

He is present in your patience,
in your weariness,
in your laughter,
in your prayers whispered after the lights go out.

He is present when you feel strong
and when you feel small.

And just as Abir carried the King with quiet faithfulness,
you carry a holy calling every day —
to love, to teach, to bless, to guide.

May this story remind you that God delights in using the humble,
and that He is nearer to you and your children
than you have ever imagined.

Sunday School Teacher's Guide

*For **THE TALE OF NATAN AND ABIR***

Lesson Overview

This lesson uses *THE TALE OF NATAN AND ABIR* to help children understand:

- **Humility** — God chooses the lowly and gentle
- **Obedience** — Following God's call even when we feel small
- **Palm Sunday** — Why Jesus entered Jerusalem on a donkey
- **God's love for the ordinary** — He sees and uses every willing heart

The story is fictional, but it is rooted in the real events of Scripture.

Scripture Foundation

Read one or more of these passages aloud:

- **Matthew 21:1–11** — Jesus enters Jerusalem on a donkey
- **Luke 19:28–40** — The disciples are sent to find the colt
- **Zechariah 9:9** — The prophecy of the humble King
- **Luke 2:1–7** — Mary and Joseph travel to Bethlehem

Encourage children to listen for the donkey in the story.

Teaching Aim

By the end of the lesson, children should understand:

- That God sees and values the humble
- That even small acts of obedience matter
- That Jesus is the promised King who came in peace
- That God can use *them* — no matter their size or age

Opening Activity (5 minutes)

"Who Does God Choose?"

Ask children to name people God used in the Bible.
Guide them toward:

- Shepherds
- Fishermen
- A young girl named Mary
- A boy with five loaves and two fish
- A donkey

Explain that God loves to use ordinary people and creatures to do extraordinary things.

Story Time (10 minutes)

Read *THE TALE OF NATAN AND ABIR* aloud.
Encourage children to notice:

- The **white cross** on Natan and Abir
- How Abir listens and remembers
- How Jesus treats the donkey with kindness
- How the donkey feels carrying the King

Pause briefly at key moments to ask simple questions:

- "How do you think Abir felt?"
- "Why do you think Jesus chose a donkey?"
- "What does the cross on his back remind you of?"

Discussion Questions (10 minutes)

- **Why did Jesus choose a donkey instead of a horse?**
- **What does the white cross remind us of?**
- **How did Abir show obedience?**
- **How can we be humble like Abir?**

Hands-On Activity Options (10–15 minutes)

1. Donkey Cross Coloring Page

Children draw or color a donkey with a white cross on its back.
Talk about how God marks our lives with His love.

2. Palm Branch Parade

Give children paper palm branches.
Let them walk around the room saying,
"**Hosanna! Jesus is our King!**"

3. "The Lord Hath Need of Him" Role-Play

Assign roles: Jesus, two disciples, the donkey, the owner.
Act out the moment the disciples untie Abir.

Memory Verse

"Behold, thy King cometh unto thee… lowly, and sitting upon an ass."
— Matthew 21:5 (KJV)

Have children repeat it slowly, then together.

Closing Prayer

"Dear Jesus, thank You for choosing the humble.
Help us to be gentle, kind, and ready to follow You.
Amen."

Take-Home Thought

"God can use even the smallest heart to carry His love."

Children's Craft Instructions

*Inspired by **THE TALE OF NATAN AND ABIR***

1. Paper Donkey With a White Cross

A craft to remember the gentle donkey God chose.

Materials

- Brown or gray construction paper
- White crayon or chalk
- Scissors
- Glue
- Googly eyes (optional)

Instructions

1. **Trace and cut** a simple donkey shape from the brown or gray paper.
2. **Draw the white cross** on the donkey's back using chalk or a white crayon.
3. **Glue on eyes** or draw them with a marker.
4. Add a tail with a small strip of paper or yarn.
5. Talk about how the **white cross** reminds us of Jesus' love.

2. Palm Branch Parade Craft

Celebrate Jesus the King, just like the children in Jerusalem.

Materials

- Green construction paper
- Scissors
- Tape or glue
- Craft stick or straw

Instructions

1. Fold the green paper in half.
2. Cut long leaf shapes along the fold.
3. Snip small slits along the edges to make "palm fronds."
4. Tape the leaf to a craft stick.
5. Let children wave them and say,
   "Hosanna! Jesus is our King!"
   (Connect to **Palm Sunday**.)

3. "The Lord Hath Need of Him" Role-Play Craft

A simple prop to help children act out the story.

Materials

- Small rope or yarn
- Paper sign that says:
  "The Lord Hath Need of Him"
- Tape

Instructions

1. Give each child a small piece of yarn to represent the donkey's rope.
2. Let them tape the sign to their shirt or hold it.
3. Act out the moment when the disciples untie Abir.

4. Explain that Jesus still calls us today —
   He has need of us too.

4. Donkey Puppet (Paper Bag)

Perfect for retelling the story at home.

Materials

- Brown paper lunch bag
- Construction paper (brown, gray, white)
- Glue
- Markers

Instructions

1. Use the bag as the donkey's body.
2. Cut out ears, a mane, and a tail from construction paper.
3. Glue them onto the bag.
4. Draw a face on the flap.
5. Add a **white cross** on the back.
6. Encourage children to retell *THE TALE OF NATAN AND ABIR* using their puppet.

5. "Footsteps of Humility" Path Craft

A craft that teaches children to walk gently like Abir.

Materials

- Paper
- Markers
- Child's hand or foot to trace
- Stickers (optional)

Instructions

1. Trace the child's foot or hand on paper.
2. Inside the outline, write one gentle action they can do this week:
   - "Help someone."
   - "Share."
   - "Be kind."
3. Decorate with stickers.
4. Explain that Abir walked humbly —
   and we can **walk humbly** too.

6. Bethlehem to Jerusalem Map Craft

Shows the journey of Natan and Abir's family.

Materials

- Paper
- Crayons
- Small donkey cutouts
- Glue

Instructions

1. Draw a simple map with two dots: **Bethlehem** and **Jerusalem**.
2. Connect them with a winding path.
3. Glue a donkey cutout on each end —
   one for Natan, one for Abir.
4. Talk about how God guided both journeys.

Teacher Script for Craft Time

*For **THE TALE OF NATAN AND ABIR***

1. Opening Words (Teacher Reads Aloud)

"Alright, everyone, now that we've heard the story of Natan and Abir, we're going to make a special craft to help us remember what we learned.
In the story, God used a humble donkey to carry His blessings. Today, we're going to make something with our hands to remind us that God can use **us** too — even when we feel small."

2. Introducing the Craft

"Today's craft is called **'The Donkey With the White Cross.'**
Do you remember the white cross on Natan and Abir's backs?
That cross reminds us of Jesus' love and His gentle heart."

Hold up an example or show the materials.

“We’re going to make our own donkey and draw the white cross on its back.”

3. Step-by-Step Instructions (Teacher-Led)

Step 1 — Trace and Cut

“First, take your brown or gray paper.
Use the donkey outline or draw your own donkey shape.
When you’re ready, carefully cut it out.
If you need help, raise your hand and I’ll come to you.”

Step 2 — Add the White Cross

“Now take your white crayon or chalk.
Right across the donkey’s back, draw the white cross — just like Natan and Abir had.
This cross reminds us of Jesus and His love for us.”

Step 3 — Add the Face and Tail

“Give your donkey a face — eyes, a smile, whatever you like.
If you want, you can glue on googly eyes.
Then add a little tail using paper or yarn.”

Step 4 — Talk While You Work

As children work, say:

“Remember how Abir followed the disciples because **‘The Lord hath need of him’**?
God has good things for you to do too.
You can be gentle, kind, and helpful — just like Abir.”

4. Optional Second Craft: Palm Branch Parade

If time allows:

“Now we’re going to make palm branches, just like the people waved when Jesus rode into Jerusalem.”

Guide them through cutting and attaching the palm fronds.

When finished:

“Let’s stand up and have our own little parade.
Wave your branches and say,
‘Hosanna! Jesus is our King!’”

5. Closing Reflection (Teacher Reads Aloud)

“Look at your donkey.
Look at the white cross on its back.
Whenever you see it, remember this:

God sees you.
God loves you.
And God can use even the smallest heart to carry His light.”

Pause.

“Just like Abir, you can follow Jesus with joy.”

6. Closing Prayer

“Dear Jesus,
Thank You for choosing the humble.
Help us to be gentle, kind, and ready to follow You.
Amen.”

Closing Page

Thank you for sharing this journey.

As you turn the final page, may the story of Natan and Abir stay with you — a reminder that God sees the humble, remembers the lowly, and delights in using gentle hearts to carry His greatest blessings.

May you walk forward with kindness.
May you listen for God’s quiet voice.
May you remember that even the smallest creature,
and even the smallest child,
can play a part in His beautiful story.

And may the peace of the One whom Abir carried
rest upon your home,

your family,
and your heart.

The story ends here,
but its light goes with you.

About the Author

Jim Giatas

Jim Giatas is a storyteller, musician, and author who loves helping children discover the beauty of God's love through simple, heartfelt tales. His books invite young readers into gentle worlds where imagination opens the door to faith, and where even the smallest characters carry deep meaning.

Jim is the author of **The Boy Who Met the Real King**, a story that helps children understand the difference between pretend kings and the living King who never fades; **The Real King Loves Eli**, a tender introduction to God's love for toddlers; and **The King Who Loves Me**, a simple reminder that Jesus is near to even the youngest hearts.

In **THE TALE OF NATAN AND ABIR**, Jim continues his mission of sharing timeless truths through humble characters — this time through two gentle donkeys whose quiet obedience reflects the heart of the Gospel. His stories are written to be read aloud, treasured by families, and remembered long after the final page is turned.

Jim lives in Fredonia, New York, where he writes, composes music, and enjoys the peaceful rhythms of rural life. His hope is that every book he creates will help children feel seen, loved, and drawn closer to the One who calls them by name.

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